

I am a former Major with Army Medical Corps, served in Vietnam, but opposed the war on discharge. I am pictured in "Stolen Valor," against my will. I know, up close and personal, that much of this film is distorted dishonest politically motivated distortion of facts. If you are not familiar with statements of James Stockdale, son of Admiral Stockdale or details of Phoenix Program, Tiger Force and Sen. Bob Kerry, get back to me. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.